

KEY:

JUDGE

UF: UNKNOWN FEMALE

UF2: UNKOWN FEMALE 2

BE: BRYANT NICHOLAS ESPINOZA

UM: UNKNOWN MALE

UF: All right. Next I have Mr. Espinoza, TK24722.

JUDGE: He is going to change his plea, is that correct?

UF: Yes.

JUDGE: All right, sir, it appears on February 6, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., Lewis and Clark County, Pelican Road, West, you are charged with the offense of violating conditions of an active order of protection by possessing a firearm, in violation of 4055626, punishable by up to six months in jail and a \$500 maximum fine. So do you understand what you could face?

BE: Yes, Your Honor.

JUDGE: All right. And are you giving up your right to a trial today by pleading guilty?

BE: Yes.

JUDGE: All right. And these are stackable offenses; if you receive another one in the future, the next would have greater penalties.

BE: I understand that.

1 JUDGE: Okay. So then how do you wish to plead? Guilty or
2 not guilty?

3 BE: Guilty.

4 JUDGE: All right. Tell me why you're guilty?

5 UF: May I assist? All right, Mr. Espinoza, on February 6,
6 2024, at approximately 2:00 p.m., were you in Lewis and Clark
7 County, Montana?

8 BE: Yes.

9 UF: And on that time and date, did you know there was an
10 order of protection in place that prohibited you from
11 possessing a firearm?

12 BE: Yes.

13 UF: This [unintelligible 00:01:28] you knowingly were in
14 possession of a firearm on February 6, 2024, is that correct?

15 BE: Yes.

16 UF: Is that sufficient?

17 JUDGE: And so which court is this sat in--the order of
18 protection is residing in?

19 UF: Oh, it's--

20 UM: It's an order of protection--California.

21 UF: Yeah, Superior Court of California, Riverside County.

22 JUDGE: Thank you very much. Okay. Do you have a
23 recommendation today?

24

25

1 UF2: Yes, You Honor, the State is recommending a \$250
2 fine plus court costs and surcharges and 180-day jail
3 sentence with all 180 days suspended.

4 JUDGE: That's [unintelligible 00:02:08].

5 UF: That is what he had agreed to so we're--yeah, we're in
6 agreement with that recommendation.

7 JUDGE: This is a pretty serious offense considering the
8 circumstances. Tell me why I shouldn't put you in jail for
9 some period of time? I take a very dim view when people
10 violate a judge's orders--especially orders for protection
11 where a firearm is prohibited.

12 BE: Well, that--one of the firearms that was actually at the
13 house wasn't even mine. It's the property owner's. It was
14 just in a [overlapping/unintelligible 00:02:50].

15 JUDGE: You have at least one is yours, isn't that correct?

16 BE: Yes, I did. Yeah, I had the one firearm just because of
17 a previous tenant that was at the property and he has a no-
18 contact order--an order of no trespass--but he's violent, a
19 violent offender, so--

20 JUDGE: But somebody has one against you and they're
21 obviously equally afraid of what you might do and that's why
22 you're not allowed to have a firearm.

23 BE: Well, it wasn't the same person that has one against me.

24 JUDGE: I understand that.

25 BE: Okay.

1 JUDGE: Somebody in California had one, though.

2 BE: Yeah.

3 JUDGE: Against you and they're worried about you having a
4 firearm and so is the judge, so I'm not real happy about the
5 situation. How am I going to be sure that you're going to
6 obey my sentence?

7 BE: Yes.

8 JUDGE: You didn't obey the Superior Court in California.
9 I'm going to go along with the sentence they recommended
10 today but I don't want to see you back here, okay? At least
11 in my courtroom for anything like this at all. I will
12 absolutely put you in jail if I see that. So your jail is
13 suspended for 180 days; the fine is \$500 with past suspended
14 and a surcharge, you owe \$335. If you remain law-abiding,
15 that also means that you need to obey an order from all the
16 courts. Do you have any questions about that?

17 BE: The restraining order is up in August; after that, am I
18 able—

19 JUDGE: If that court releases you from those conditions,
20 then, yes.

21 BE: Okay.

22 JUDGE: I can't take it away. I don't have the authority to
23 do that—to another judge's order.

24 BE: Okay.

25

JUDGE: Especially one in another state. Well, in the
meantime, [unintelligible 00:04:29] you just need to remain
law-abiding as far as this Court is concerned, okay?

BE: Okay.

JUDGE: And that means obeying other orders. All right,
sir, give this to the clerk and we'll set you up on your
[unintelligible 00:04:41] and you can be on your way.

BE: Thank you, have a good day.

UF: Thank you.

I, Margaret Logic, state under penalty of perjury, under the
laws of the State of Wisconsin, that I have prepared this 5-
page transcript regarding the file State v. Bryant Nicholas
Espinoza, Lewis and Clark County Justice Court, TK-515-2024-
722 to the best of my ability on January 30, 2025, in the
Township of Brookfield, County of Waukesha, State of
Wisconsin. I further certify that I am not in any way
interested in the outcome of the cause named in said
interview.

Margaret Logic
Signature